

...A Page Devoted to the Interests and Occupations of Women...

...September Rondel...

You thought it was a falling leaf we heard;
I knew it was the Summer's gipsy feet;
A sound so reticent it scarcely stirred
The ear so still a message to repeat.

"I go, and lo I make my going sweet;"
What wonder you should miss so soft a word?
You thought it was a falling leaf we heard;
I knew it was the Summer's gipsy feet.

With slender torches for her service meet
The goldenrod is coming; softer slurred
Midsummer noises take a note replete
With hint of change; who told the mocking-bird?
I knew it was the summer's gipsy feet—
You thought it was a falling leaf we heard.

Charlotte Wilson, in the New Idea.



Has Germany Few Great Women, As Compared With Her Enemy, France?

A comparison between Germany and France as to great women naturally brings up the question as to what the exact definition of the word "great" in its relation to women means. Beginning with the Christian Empress Clotilde, wife of Clovis I, who exercised her beneficent sway over the French court as early as 493 A. D., a long and brilliant line of names during the centuries that have followed in France easily suggest themselves. From hundreds of others, those of Beatrice of Bourbon, Louise of Savoy, Catherine and Marie de Medici, Madame de Maintenon, Madame Roland, Madame Lebrun, the Empress Marie Antoinette, Madame de Staël, Josephine and Hortense de Beauharnais, George Sand, Rosa Marie Bonheur and the Empress Eugénie come crowding from a past where they founded dynasties, were important factors in diplomacy and state government, splendid figures in court life and the world of literature and art—women whose examples have not perished with the periods that saw them famous.

Position of Women in France.

From the beginning the position accorded women in France in public and private life, the advantages open to them in every sphere, have called forth the development of womanly talent at its highest and best. Society at the French court and in the Faubourg Saint Germain has given an object lesson to the rest of the world. Through the instrumentality of Clotilde, Clovis I was converted from paganism. Beatrice of Bourbon, by her marriage with Robert, Count of Clermont and sixth son of Louis IV, founded the Bourbon branch of the Capetian dynasty. Louise of Savoy negotiated the peace of Cambray in 1529. Catherine de Medici was regent of France during the minority of Charles IX, and Marie de Medici, consort of Henry IV, was regent from 1610 to 1617. Madame de Maintenon, second wife of Louis XIV, was also a patroness of letters and fine arts, her salon being frequented by the foremost intellectual society of her day. Madame Roland's home in Paris was headquarters for the Republicans and Girondists. Madame Lebrun was made a member of the French Academy in 1783, and was also associate member of the academies at Bologna, Parma, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Copenhagen and Geneva. Marie Antoinette exhibited such unshaken firmness under the greatest trials as to win the admiration of the world. Madame de Staël enjoyed the society of men like Buffon, Marmontel, Grimm and Gibbon, who stimulated her wonderful mental activity. Josephine Beauharnais, as the wife of Napoleon Bonaparte, and Hortense, as the mother of Napoleon III, George Sand, woman of letters, Rosa Bonheur, winning the cross of the Legion of Honor as the award of merit, follow naturally along lines mapped out by women who had gone before them. Eugénie, a shadow of to-day in the world, where she once radiated brightness, for years at the gayest court of Europe set the pace for the rest of womanhood to follow.

Germany Differs Widely.

In so far as women are concerned, Germany certainly differs widely from France. In Germany women are housewives and good mothers, paying homage due to their overlords, who are the real heads of the home, educated rather to habits of thrift and economy than to proficiency in arts and sciences, understanding better how to fill a linen chest against a wedding day than to strive for success as a writer or a sculptor, a lawyer or a doctor. German men flatter themselves that their women are a well regulated set.

Things Worth Remembering.

But though their talents and tastes are so far apart from those of their French neighbors, history records not a few names of the feminine sex belonging to French neighbors, history records not a few names of the feminine sex belonging to German men who have done things worth remembering. In the early days, when the German chief, Hermann, was trying to deliver his country from Roman thralldom, Thunelida, his beautiful young wife, and his little son were treacherously taken captive and carried to Rome. There they were forced to march in the Roman triumph, but Thunelida bore herself so nobly and with such lofty scorn toward her captors that even her enemies were turned into friends.

Constant and devoted as wives, these German matrons could occasionally control matters of state on behalf of sons or husbands, for the Empress Agnes, mother of Henry IV, of Germany, was made regent during the childhood of her son. When Henry came to man's estate and was forced to go on foot to Rome to visit the Pope in bitter winter weather, and others held aloof, his hitherto unloved wife, Bertha, was his faithful companion and devoted ally.

Albrecht Dürer, the great painter of Nuremberg, wrote in his diary concerning his mother that "it was her constant custom to go much to church. She kept us, my brothers and me, with great care from all sin, and on my coming in or going out it was her habit to say, 'Christ bless thee.' I cannot praise enough her good works, the kindness and charity that she showed to all, nor can I speak enough of the good fame that was hers."

Schiller's Early Training. When Schiller's father was serving in the Seven Years' War, the mother at home was telling the little boy at her knee stories of his father, who was far away. And the little boy loved to hear these stories, and begged his mother to tell them to him again and again. The love of army life thus instilled by maternal influence is seen in Schiller's three great plays about Wallenstein, and others of his dramas.

History records no more beautiful or heroic nature than that of Queen Louise, wife of Frederick William III, of Prussia. Following the traditions of her country, she and her royal husband lived quietly in Potsdam, just outside of Berlin. When the victorious forces of Napoleon forced the King and Queen, with their children, into exile, they adopted the plainest manner possible, but Queen Louise endured all hardships without a murmur. Even now, when more

than 100 years have gone by, on the birthday of the Queen, in the springtime, the children of Berlin and of the royal family go to the park and show their love and remembrance by adorning the statue of the Queen with flowers and garlands. The son of Queen Louise, William I, of Germany, held her always in most affectionate reverence, and avenged upon France the suffering and humiliation meted out to her by Napoleon Bonaparte.

Bismarck and Von Moltke.

Bismarck, William's Prime Minister, was most happy in his home with his wife, and Von Moltke, his great soldier, when battles were over for him, never failed to pay a daily visit to the tomb where his young wife, whom he dearly loved, lay buried. William's eldest son, Frederick, said that he spent his happiest days in England, where he visited Queen Victoria's court and found there a fair young royal girl who became his bride, and who was his Empress during the three short months of his reign. The present Empress of Germany keeps alive the homely customs of her native land in busying herself, first of all, with the things that relate to the happiness and well-being of her immediate family and household. And her children and grandchildren rise up to call her blessed.

Different Types.

French women and German women are thus different racial and national types, formed by the evolution of different social codes and civilizations that have always been at variance. The one class stands for aestheticism and culture and social grace; the other for home-keeping and as the exponents of domestic virtues. The one class gains the plaudits of the world which it dominates; the other, confidence and affection from the few whose lives most nearly touch its own, and is content to let society at large pass lightly by. Which class does most for other women and the world in general? For real goodness is measured by service.

ALICE M. TYLER.

AUGUST ENTERTAINING

Lawn Tea Party.

Spread rugs on lawn and verandah steps, place several tabourets in convenient places and the tea tables beneath huge Japanese umbrellas. Ask several pretty girls to pour tea, and with strings of instruments, concealed behind a screen of palms, the accessories for a pleasant lawn tea party are in hand.

English muffins, freshly toasted, orange marmalade, oatmeal cakes, candied orange and ginger and stuffed with a mixture of raisins and currants. Tea is served with accompaniments of lemon rum and arrack; also cream and sugar for those desiring it. Sometimes if the weather is very warm, an ice or a frappe is offered; also very thin sandwiches and salted nuts.

A Sanded Party.

A novel entertainment for a child's birthday may take the form of a sand party. Previous to the arrival of little guests make a huge mound of sand, hiding all sorts of treasures in it that may be found at the 5 and 10-cent store, at the favor counters and at Japanese shops. When the children arrive give each one a small shovel, such as may be bought with a tin pail for 5 cents. Stick as many flags in the sand as there are children and tell each one to choose a flag and begin digging at that spot. After all have dug up two, three or four objects, as the limit may be, the pails are produced and the members of the party proceed to amuse themselves. Serve a regular picnic supper, with the addition of birthday cake and ice cream.

Souvenirs.

A pretty departure from the regular method of arranging candles on the birthday cake is to have the usual number of "year candles," and then an outer circle in tiny candlesticks, one for each child to take home as a souvenir. These miniature holders come in green and yellow ware, and are very attractive.

An Angler's Supper.

At an angler's supper given by a

bachelor to a select coterie of friends, dining-room walls were hung with fish net, in which miniature fish of different sizes were caught. Globes of gold fish were placed on the mantel and sideboard. A unique centerpiece was formed by filling a long, shallow dish with water and concealing its edges with a fringe of ferns and moss. Two boats were apparently crossing the lake toward a tiny tent pitched at the head of the table. A miniature hunter with a gun and a fisherman with a rod produced a realistic effect. Each place-card displayed a different variety of fish. The menu was composed of sea food and bamboo poles crossed overhead, with red lanterns hung from them, gave just the right glow to the room.

Defying Middle Age

Silver Gray Hair.

Because one's hair is gray, and wrinkles here and there bespeak the flight of time, does not necessitate that she should cease to be becomingly coiffured and dressed or that the scars of time should not be disguised so far as possible. This is an age of youth, and we hold on as long as possible to all of its semblances. Much of the most beautiful of the new hairdressing is at its best in silver and white hair. If this is waved slightly it looks full and soft, whereas thin hair may be supplemented by curls or a roll to match. Some wavy bangs or curls at the temples often lend an effect of softness.

Neck and Wrist.

In dressing the neck, preserve as slender lines as possible, for nothing looks worse than a bunched collar or a short or flabby neck. With the decollete gown a bang of velvet about the neck will conceal bad lines and prove becoming.

If the hand or wrist is ugly, wear the sleeve long over the hand, with a finish of soft lace or plaiting. Use sheer silk mitts of the same color with the short sleeves. The latter

are worn on any occasion when gloves are not needed.

Character Embroidery.

Have you realized to the full the necessity of choosing a certain type of embroidery to each person to whom you give the hand-made present? Do you understand that there are distinct types of embroidery and that each is indulged in by the woman or girl with a leaning in some one direction? And, moreover, have you considered that these types of handwork start out from the very beginning, that is, with the design itself? You may succeed, by your varying stitches, in making the finished work somewhat more delicate or again more rich and heavy, but you will not be able to alter the actual plan of the work or to change its character.

The Mannish Woman.

The mannish woman when she wears embroidery looks always for that strong touch throughout the design, which saves the work from being characterless. A bold design with some coarse solid dashes throughout the work will give the effect of strength. This would be the last choice of our sturdy maid of the bow-knot and the wreath. For her there are countless slender vines, blossoms and buds which are French in their origin and which are admirably suited to the beauty-loving type of woman who seeks distinctness in all of her small possessions and who effects it in the ornamentation of her entire wardrobe from the flowers on her hats to the embroidery on her stockings.

The purely conventional in embroidery design is frequently the choice of women who effect extreme plainness of attire and straightness of line. They each have their separate places and their devotees, and there is room for every one in the world of needle and thread. We know of it pulled quite far down over the head, disclosing only some ringlets that escaped in bounds, and we well remember Thackeray's dowagers whose plumes bobbed in unison with their turbaned heads and their indignation.

Turban Feature.

And now some fashion prophet, or, indeed, purchase a prophetic, foretells the turban as a feature of the millinery for the later season. The fact that this smart-looking closed hat has already graced a race meeting in France seems a sufficient guarantee to the prophet that it will win out.

If this turban with its twisted drapery is now an English favorite, as we have been informed, it was of East Indian origin, and long ago it was distinctly Greek and comes not without a pedigree—its past history is assured. A long popularity was enjoyed by it during the Madame de Staël days, when it was both street hat and evening headpiece. We know of it pulled quite far down over the head, disclosing only some ringlets that escaped in bounds, and we well remember Thackeray's dowagers whose plumes bobbed in unison with their turbaned heads and their indignation.

Velvet Croquis.

The full-crowned hat made its first venture in Paris in the soft puff of silk chiffon, flowered lawn or hand-run lace, but drifted speedily over to a mass of velvet, despite the fact that madam's madness alone could have sanctioned such a weight upon the head of delicate woman during our warmest days. The fashion seems not to be gaining ground so rapidly as might have been expected.

Perhaps we feel we were overcredulous in the matter of the peach-basket.

Advice to Autumn Bride

Fascinating Lingerie.

That the prospective bride should plan her lingerie before considering her frocks and hats is altogether in keeping with her feminine love of distinctness. The new things in underwear and negligees are not only more fascinating than ever, but particularly well adapted to present needs of fashion. Among the newer garments are the combination corselets and circular skirt—both being joined to a carefully fitted circular yoke—and the corset cover with its front fullness retained in tucks below the bustline.

The combination garment, which serves the purpose of corset cover, drawers and petticoat is also a favorite in autumn trousseaus. Nainsook, batiste and handkerchief linen are the choice of materials used, while there is no limit to the use of hand embroidery, lace and ribbon decoration.

Gowns for Occasions.

"Each gown for its own occasion," is the motto that should hang in every woman's dressing-room. The woman with taste will sometimes know about clothes what the woman of common sense has learned by experience. But both will at once agree that it is a breach of good taste to wear a fluffy gown upon a city street, and that, furthermore, a gown worn out of its proper place will last but one-half as long.

Both of these women know, too, that a cloth or linen street suit should never be worn in the house. It is as comfortable looking, and it will soon become kneed and wrinkled.

It is intended that in the house one should be dainty and feminine, while on the street it is desirable that one should look dignified, neat and stylish. These are matters that admit of no argument—they are!

Crocheted Buttons.

Throughout the vogue of the covered and embroidered button, crocheted buttons have never lost their place as the first choice of the particular woman. They are used upon linens, upon chiffon gowns, on cashmere, and even upon foulards. On lingerie waists, too, they are very popular, for they trim prettily and daintily.

Sometimes these buttons are quite round, again quite flat; but whichever shape they may be, they are effective and improve the garment upon which they appear.

Travelers' Pocket

Needful Possession.

Perhaps the most necessary possession of the woman who travels is a stout pocket attached to her corset or worn on a belt beneath her skirt. The prettiest of white linen envelopes, daintily embroidered and worn suspended from the neck by a wash ribbon, may be recommended for a short journey in weather that is not unbearably hot; but when even a neck ribbon cannot be endured the envelope may be sewn to the corset.

Home-Made Bag Best.

There was once a woman who pinned her jewel case to her garter, and another who carried her keys on the other side of the ocean with only clean clothes and whole ones, she cast into the ocean all of those half-worn

garments in which she had started on her journey. Perhaps you will be nearly as glad as she was to learn that she almost, but not quite, cast the linen pocket into the briny deep. In reality, she remembered to unpin it, and then momentarily forgot her caution. It is far safer, where notes, jewels and valuable papers are to be carried, to make the bag of suede leather or heavy drill, pocketed and with flaps that button down, and to wear it around the waist, suspended from a belt fastened with an actual buckle.

There is no more useful present for the traveler-to-be. A home-made bag, firmly made on the sewing machine, will prove the best. If this is too far removed from the beautiful to appeal to you as a presentable gift, why not give with it the embroidered linen envelope? For your traveling friend will, I feel sure, have use for both.

Quaint Bedspreads.

India print enters largely into the decorators' scheme for summer cottages. Where white curtains have been chosen, and where other flowered surfaces have been avoided, the bedspread of blue and white India print will give an air of distinction to the entire room. This material is delightfully cool in weight and in finish, and is one of the best known tub materials. It has been known to wash for twenty years without loss of color, but why should not the far-famed eyes of the Orient outlast our later efforts?

Luncheon Ideas.

Save that bouillon is served instead of soup, and there are fewer courses, the formal luncheon differs but slightly from a dinner. The manner of serving is identical with that which characterizes a properly served dinner.

Coffee and bon-bons may be served at the table, or, which is always a graceful custom and serves to bridge over an awkward time, immediately after the guests have repaired to the drawing-room. When chocolate is served, it may constitute a course in itself and follow the salad course, or it may be served with the dessert.

The menu should comprise a seasonable fruit or oysters, bouillon served in two-handled bouillon cups, hors d'oeuvres, an entree, chops or similar meat with one vegetable, salad, dessert and coffee. The serving should all be done from the butler's pantry or from the kitchen.

A Breakfast Party.

Breakfasts hold a sort of social possibilities for the woman of originality.

The setting of a breakfast has much to do with its success. In cold weather, the room should be as bright and cheerful as sunlight and artificial warmth can combine to make it. In summer the breakfast at fresco is the most charming and sensible one; but lacking this natural setting, the dining-room should be cool and restful to the eye and senses.

What Custom Prescribes.

Custom prescribes that the formal breakfast shall begin with fruit; this shall be followed by an egg course, then a fish course, this in turn by an entree, one meat, a salad, then dessert and coffee.